

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

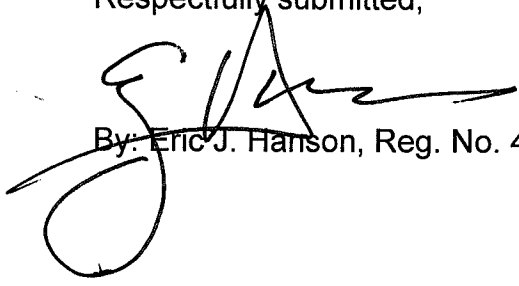
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, as amended, and reconsideration of the Office Action dated December 13, 2006. Applicants request cancellation of claims 32, 33 and 48-56 without prejudice. Independent base claim 26 has been amended to include all of the respective limitations of claim 56, which is indicated as allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form. All remaining claims depend or have been amended to depend from the amended independent base claim 26 that includes all of the limitations of claim 56. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 26, 27, 34, 35, 45 and 47 will be pending in this application.

No new matter has been incorporated by this Amendment which is supported by the claims as originally filed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, the accompanying papers, or otherwise unaccounted for in subsequent prosecution of this application please charge the fees to SGR Deposit Account No. 02-4300, Order No. 042716.005. If an additional extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is necessary that is not accounted for in the papers filed herewith, such an extension is requested. The additional extension fee should also be charged to SGR Deposit Account No. 02-4300, Order No. 042716.005. Any overpayment can be credited to Deposit Account No. 02-4300, Order No. 042716.005.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 14, 2006
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